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year now expended by the hospital and medical school for running expenses, and providing a building fund of \$1,000,000.

DR. LEE I. KNIGHT, of the department of botany, University of Minnesota, has been appointed chairman of that department.

DR. HARRY F. LEWIS, A.B. and A.M., Wesleyan University, and Ph.D., Tilden, Illinois, has been elected associate professor in chemistry at Cornell College.

DR. JOSEPH L. MAYER, chief chemist of the research and analytical laboratories of the Louis K. Liggett Co., New York, has been appointed professor of analytical and pharmaceutical chemistry in the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy where he has been associate professor of analytical chemistry for several years.

S. C. OGBURN, JR., graduate of the University of North Carolina, has been appointed instructor in chemistry at Washington and Lee University.

JAMES L. HOWE, JR., who has been for three years assistant professor of chemistry in Washington and Lee University, has accepted the professorship of chemistry in Hangchow Christian College, China.

H. P. PHILPOT, assistant professor at University College, London, has been appointed to the professorship of civil and mechanical engineering at the Finsbury Technical College; and A. J. Hale, chief assistant in the department of applied chemistry, has been appointed to the professorship in that department.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE CHERT PITS AT COXSACKIE, N. Y.

A REMARKABLE series of chert pits and two large quarries two miles south of Coxsackie, N. Y., is being examined by the archeological staff of the State Museum of New York under the leadership of State Archeologist Arthur C. Parker.

These pits are on the property of the West Shore Railroad and cover the greater portion of an elongate hill a mile in length and some one thousand feet in width. The hill is cov-

ered with the refuse of aboriginal excavations. The steep slopes are covered in places to a depth of six or more feet with the rock broken from the pits and quarries. One immense dump is more than a hundred feet long and eight feet in thickness and contains besides the waste rock the rejected blocks of flint and many broken or partially completed implements. Broken rock occurs in such quantities that the railroad purchased the property thinking it an enormous bed of broken stone suitable for road bed ballast.

Mr. Parker is making a survey of the hill in order to make a relief model of it for a museum exhibit. The artificial nature of the broken stone was discovered by Mr. Jefferson Ray, of West Coxsackie, who made a collection of 1,500 chipped chert implements from the workshop sites on the flats below the hill.

The site is an exceedingly old one and must have been worked by three or four hundred Indians at a time for a period of 500 to 1000 years, judging from the large quantities of flint found upon it. The site is a remarkable one and is a unique archeological monument that will well repay visitation by archeologists and geologists interested in securing data bearing on the stone age.

EVERETT R. BURMASTER

STATE MUSEUM,
ALBANY, N. Y.

THE USE OF AGAR IN FACILITATING THE REMOVAL OF A SWALLOWED FOREIGN OBJECT

OPPORTUNITY of experimentation and observation in the use of agar in assisting in the removal of a foreign object from the stomach came to the writer in the case of a child, four and one half years old, who had swallowed a safety pin. The pin was an ordinary nicked pin, one and one half inches long, and was closed.

According to the best medical practise the use of purgatives or cathartics in such emergency is to be avoided, as such would tend to liquefy and remove the bowel content leaving the object unsupported; and moreover any